



Oral Statement on Sideline of Arms Trade Treaty Preparatory Meeting

Working Group on Treaty Transparency

Thank you, Mr. President

Maat emphasizes the significance of disclosing data related to the arms trade as a means to go beyond mere obligations and ensure that Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) has a tangible impact on state behavior. Availability of data fosters confidence-building, enhances security between states, and promotes accountability. It also enables civil society organizations to monitor governments' adherence to their commitments under Arms Trade Treaty.

Despite the importance of transparency and necessity of reporting on the conventional weapons transfer operations carried out by countries, Maat notes that only a small number of countries (8 in total) submitted their reports in 2023. Furthermore, one country did not make its report available to civil society organizations. Out of 114 countries, the number of reporting countries in 2022 was 70, with 18 countries withholding their reports from civil society organizations. Additionally, 17 states parties have yet to submit any report since joining ATT, including Afghanistan, Lebanon, and Togo.

Therefore, Maat recommends countries parties to submit their reports to enhance transparency and accountability in international arms trade. Maat emphasizes the importance of providing technical support to countries, enabling them to prepare their reports with the assistance of civil society organizations, particularly local organizations. Maat also calls upon states to share information with civil society organizations and grant them access thereto.

Thank you